

Shifting Mindsets in an Evolving World

Impediment by Transformation Processes



FIG-Vice president Stig Enemark with FIG chairs and incoming chairs of FIG-commissions 2, 3 and 7 on the occasion of the FIG Workshop on e-Governance, Knowledge Management and e-Learning, Budapest April 2006.

People in a society are generally unaware of the impact of slowly evolving changes over a long period of time. Evolution, in contrast to revolution, does not tend to create historical milestones. However, our living space, together with spatial and social environments, is changing significantly.

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Paper Maps

There is an enormous reduction in land resources occurring every year, reducing the availability of rural agricultural land. Similarly the paradigm shift of providing spatial information online as opposed to paper maps is changing society's mindsets almost beyond recognition compared to just a few years ago. The processes that underpin our social interactions have changed beyond all recognition in recent years enabling us to use the interrelated parameters of location, space and time. This, together with technological innovation, has supported the creation of a mobile society that requires rapid access to a variety of information and supporting processes. This is just the beginning of the major changes that will confront us in the future. Society will think spatially without realising it. This will be the ultimate shifting of the human mindset.